



HAWAII VFC NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S IMMUNIZATION BRANCH

"Hawaii VFC News" is a quarterly publication distributed to all participating Vaccine for Children (VFC) providers. Its purpose is to address VFC-related issues, provide general immunization information, and keep you up-to-date with the latest program changes.

VFC Spring 2020 Contents



VFC

Get your Flu Shots



Talk to the Doc



PERTUSSIS



2019 HPV Vaccine CHAMPION

VFC / COVID-19 Update

With COVID-19 cases on the rise in Hawaii, the Hawaii VFC program wanted to extend our thanks to our pediatric immunization providers for the important work that you do in protecting Hawaii's keiki from the threat of vaccine-preventable diseases. Experts from organizations around the globe, including the [World Health Organization](#), [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), and [UNICEF](#), agree that prevention of communicable diseases, particularly vaccination, is critically important to maintain during the COVID-19 pandemic. With health systems and services currently strained or overwhelmed, large numbers of unimmunized or underimmunized persons may result as an unintended consequence of worldwide COVID-19 response efforts. It is vital to continue immunization services for as long as we are safely able, especially for infants and young children (through 24 months of age). Our collective goals are to prevent outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases from occurring during the pandemic, in the immediate post-pandemic recovery period, as well as long after the public health emergency subsides.



In alignment with the effort to maintain essential immunization services, the Department of Health is continuing to plan Stop Flu at School (SFAS) Clinics to occur at selected public/public charter schools, statewide from October – November 2020. SFAS also has the important function of serving as an annual test of public health emergency preparedness infrastructure for mass vaccination events. As we prepare for the possibility of a COVID-19 vaccine, SFAS clinics ensure staff statewide, affiliated with DOH and with partner agencies/organizations, on all major islands, are trained, ready, and familiar with mass-vaccination clinic planning and operations.

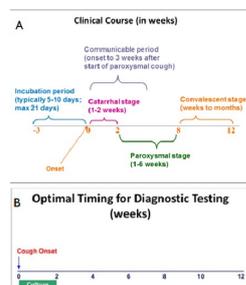
If you are interested in volunteering to assist with COVID-19 response, SFAS clinics, or potential COVID-19 vaccination clinics, the Hawaii Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) could use your help! For more information see: <https://health.hawaii.gov/prepare/mrc/>. To sign up online, visit: <https://www.nlk.doh.hawaii.gov/>.

For more information on maintaining immunization services during COVID-19 response efforts, please see: CDC Resources for Clinics and Healthcare Facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html>
 American Academy of Pediatrics, COVID-19 Clinical Guidance Q&A: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/covid-19-clinical-guidance-q-a/>
 World Health Organization, Operational Guidance for Maintaining Essential Health Services During an Outbreak: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/covid-19-operational-guidance-for-maintaining-essential-health-services-during-an-outbreak>
 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060402>

VFC vaccine orders and newborn Hepatitis B vaccine/HBIG orders will continue to be processed as usual. Please continue to place orders for VFC-supplied pediatric vaccines, including 2019-20 influenza vaccines, as needed. Remember to submit VFC refrigerator and freezer temperature logs and VFC vaccine inventory information to ensure timely processing of your vaccine orders.

Pertussis Testing and Reporting

Pertussis can cause serious and potentially life-threatening complications in infants and young children, especially those who are not fully vaccinated. Complications include pneumonia, seizures, apnea, encephalopathy, and death. In 2018, the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) received 36 reports of pertussis. **In 2019, the number of reported pertussis cases increased by 50% to a total of 54.** A quarter of the 2019 cases in Hawaii occurred in infants younger than 2 years of age and approximately 10% required hospitalization.



Symptoms of pertussis usually develop within 5 to 10 days after being exposed, but sometimes as long as 3 weeks later. In the youngest infants, atypical presentation is common. The cough may be minimal or absent and the primary symptom can be apnea. The clinical course of pertussis is divided into three stages: catarrhal, paroxysmal, and convalescent. See Image A.

Diagnosis and Laboratory Testing:
 Culture is considered the "gold standard" because it is the only 100% specific method for identification. It is best to collect a nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for culture during the first 2 weeks of cough. After the first two weeks, sensitivity decreases and the risk of false-negatives increases. Culture results may take up to 7 days. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a rapid test that has excellent sensitivity; however, PCR tests vary in specificity. NP specimens for PCR testing have optimal sensitivity during the first 3 weeks of cough.

Reporting to HDOH:
 Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 156 Require:

- **Urgent** reporting by telephone as soon as a provisional diagnosis is established; and
- **Immediate** reporting by telephone within 24 hours of positive test results for *Bordetella pertussis*.

Telephone reports shall be followed by a written report submitted by mail or fax within 3 days to HDOH. For more information on diagnostic testing of pertussis, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/clinical/diagnostic-testing/index.html>

Talk to the Doc

Question: Our 8-month old patient was recently diagnosed with pertussis (PCR-positive). Should this patient receive the remaining doses in the DTaP vaccination series?



Answer: Yes.

Persons who have a history of pertussis should receive age appropriate DTaP or Tdap doses according to the routine recommended schedule. Although pertussis disease is likely to confer natural immunity against pertussis, the immune response might be suboptimal against subsequent pertussis disease and the duration of protection induced by an infection does not provide long-term immunity. No interval between disease and immunization is needed.

For further information, see “Prevention of Pertussis, Tetanus, and Diphtheria with Vaccines in the United States: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)” at: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/rr/pdfs/rr6702a1-H.pdf> or the AAP, [Pertussis] in: Kimberlin DW, Brady MT, Jackson MA, Long SS, eds. Red Book: 2018 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. 31st ed. Itasca, IL: AAP, 2018: [620-634] at: <https://redbook.solutions.aap.org/chapter.aspx?sectionid=189640156&bookid=2205>.

Congratulations to Aiea Pediatrics!

Aiea Pediatrics was awarded Hawaii’s 2019 HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention Champion by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Aiea Pediatrics is spotlighted on the CDC website at: https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/champions/2019-winners.html?deliveryName=USCDC_11_50-DM13628#hi



**Aiea Pediatrics
Aiea, HI**

At Aiea Pediatrics in Aiea, Hawaii, immunizations are a top priority for Dr. Brent K. Tamamoto and his staff. They work as a team to promote immunizations through training and comprehensive communication with patients and parents.

Aiea Pediatrics is open six days a week, including Saturdays, to make it easier for parents to schedule appointments. The staff schedules immunization-only visits a week in advance, but they frequently accommodate same day appointments upon request. Routinely, the staff reminds parents about vaccines their children are due for when they check in, and schedule appointments for additional doses of the vaccine before the patient leaves the office. The staff uses scheduling software to send text and email reminders to parents about appointments and will call parents with unconfirmed appointments 1-2 days prior to the visit.

The office displays HPV vaccination posters and flyers in the waiting room, giving parents time to read information before entering the exam room. The staff at Aiea have also been proactive about finding new resources to educate patients and parents about the HPV vaccine. Ramona Sergent, an office manager and medical assistant at Aiea, shares short HPV videos with parents and patients who come in for office visits that they can watch on their phones while waiting to be seen. Ms. Sergent and other staff members also regularly check social media to stay up-to-date on current concerns about immunizations, which helps them anticipate questions from parents and be better prepared to respond to concerns. The staff documents any vaccination refusals and Dr. Tamamoto revisits the conversation with parents at future visits.

Aiea Pediatrics has a 90% HPV vaccine rate for adolescent patients. Their commitment to increasing Oahu’s adolescent HPV vaccination rates makes **Aiea Pediatrics Hawaii’s 2019 HPV Vaccine Is Cancer Prevention Champion!**

Help Box

Reminders:

- ⇒ Please note your VFC PIN on all correspondence (fax and email). When faxing, the VFC PIN should be noted on all pages in the event that pages become separated.
- ⇒ Send in monthly temperature logs
- ⇒ Record full inventory. Make sure it is legible and use additional sheet, if necessary.

Current Dates of Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) as of January 8, 2020

Check your supply of VISs against this list. If you have outdated VISs, get current versions at www.immunize.org/vis.

Adenovirus	1/8/20	MMRV	8/15/19
Anthrax	1/8/20	Multi-vaccine	11/15/15
Cholera	10/30/19	PCV13	10/30/19
DTaP	8/24/18	PPSV23	10/30/19
Hepatitis A	7/20/16	Polio	10/30/19
Hepatitis B	8/15/19	Rabies	1/8/20
Hib	10/30/19	Rotavirus	10/30/19
HPV	10/30/19	Td	4/11/17
Influenza	8/15/19	Tdap	2/24/15
Japanese enceph	8/15/19	Typhoid	10/30/19
MenACWY	8/15/19	Varicella	8/15/19
MenB	8/15/19	Yellow fever	3/30/11
MMR	8/15/19	Zoster	10/30/19

Immunization Action Coalition www.immunize.org/camp.djv.2020.pdf • Item #P2020 (1/20)

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